



VIBRATIONS

THE OWASIPPE STAFF ASSOCIATION

Vol. 8, #3

Nov. 1985

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

This special edition of the newsletter is devoted to some of the major accomplishments of the Owasispe Staff Association, not only this year but also in the past. In our regular newsletters we highlight the efforts of our members, those who mark the trails, paint and wire the buildings, repair the roofs, and build the floorboards. Our members give their time unselfishly, and we are very proud of the work we complete at camp. In this newsletter, however, we'd like to focus upon the contributions of our association to Owasispe. Here too we are proud of our efforts. We have caused positive changes in Owasispe and continue to participate in its growth.

Today we have developed plans for the construction of two field sports ranges and the renovation of two more. We'll tell you about this project in this newsletter, how it began, where we are now, and where we hope to be in the months and year ahead. Along the way, we'd also like to take you back through our early years, back to our earlier shower house project and to other less publicized contributions by our organization and our members. Aim For Perfection is not just the slogan of our present fundraising campaign, it is a continuing goal of our members.

ALONG THE PATH

The path we travelled to the field sports range project was a long one, and we thought you might like to follow it. In May, 1984, Pat Monahan was appointed project coordinator by President Mark Behnke and authorized by the Board of Directors to meet with representatives of the Chicago Area Council to identify a major project. At a July meeting with Bob Poole, Owasispe Reservation Director, Pat Monahan and Joe Sener expressed the interest of the OSA in a project. They requested that a list of high-priority projects be developed by the Council and given to the OSA.

In February, 1985, Bob Poole submitted a list of four projects to a project committee of the OSA. In addition to Pat Monahan, this committee included Bob Bavirsha, Tony Krier, Ron Kulak, Rusty Martino, Kevin Murphy, Chauncey Niziol, and Tiny Norman. These individuals reviewed the projects on the basis of value to Owasispe, urgency of need, anticipated support of OSA members, and feasibility of OSA completion. In March, members of the project committee recommended a field-sports-range project to the OSA Board of Directors, who approved it unanimously.

The members of the project committee favored the ranges because the need for them at Owasispe is pressing. Two camps have no rifle ranges. Two other camps have

From the beginning, we designed a shower house of which we could all be proud: Tall, spacious, Modern, and Attractive. Build it right, we told ourselves, and we did. At no time in the brief history of our association had so many people come together to meet one goal. More than 125 people donated money and materials to the project. More than one-hundred members of our organization and their friends came to Owasippe for the May Fix-It to help in the construction.



Bob Bavirsha came with his skilled carpenters, a week early to erect the frame, at the Fix-It along with Tony Krier to lead and supervise the construction, and the week after to complete construction. Ed Wendling threaded pipe and installed the water and gas plumbing as the building grew up around him. Rusty Martino, Sharon Smith and Carol Martino customized screens. Gary Hanson and Chuck Nagel stained and primed the building. Jack Norman, Ron Kulak, and Bill Lotter shingled the roof. And Frank Chlebek and Joe Sener dug the water line and hooked up the water. Everyone at the Fix-It lent a hand to the project, and at the end of that warm spring weekend we settled back to admire our work.



We built it right, and we continue to maintain it. We do that with all the major projects we complete at Owasippe. These are our work, and we are proud of them. The field sports pavilions which have been designed will also be built right: large, spacious, designed for heavy use. We'll maintain these pavilions too. Can we bring so many people together again? We think so. After all, the people we've named above are leading the way again this time. We learned much the last time, and this time we'll be even more efficient and productive.



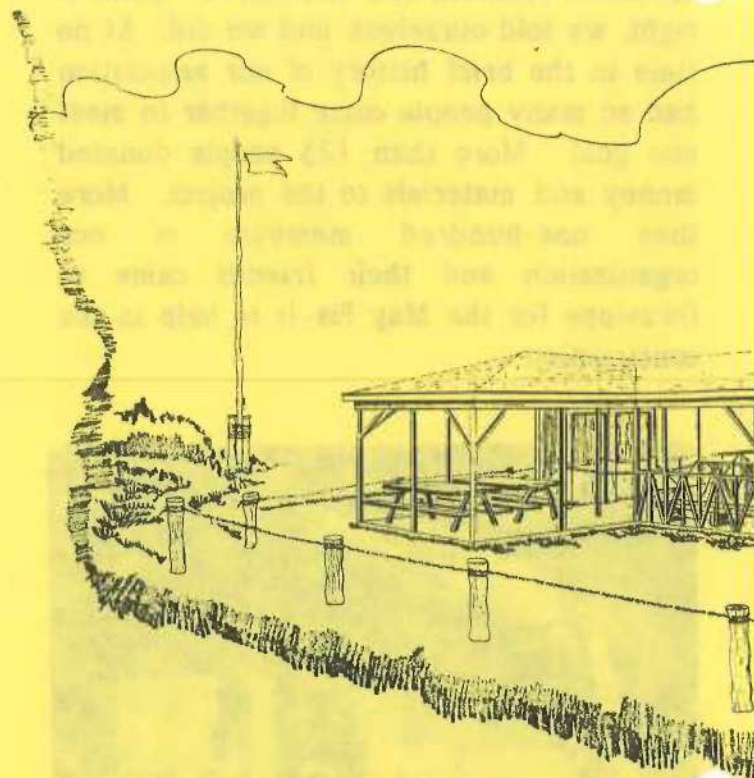
Ready on the Firing Line

The field sports program at Owasisippe is the second most popular program area in camp, following closely behind the waterfront. More than eighty percent of the scouts in camp visit the ranges during their stay, and each year, scouts at Owasisippe fire more than one-hundred-and-ten thousand rounds.

A rifle-and-shotgun program in a boy scout camp has two major objectives. First, it contributes in practical ways to the sound safety and conservation programs of the camp, teaching accident prevention and wise use of all natural resources. Scouts develop a responsible attitude toward rifles and an understanding of their proper uses. In addition, a rifle-and-shotgun program teaches skills that build in scouts a lifelong interest in the open. Riflery can become an enjoyable hobby, and the skills of the hunter have practical value for scouts.

No area at Owasisippe requires more supervision than the rifle range. Range officers are twenty-one and have completed a BSA national-camping-school course. Most field-sports directors are also certified by the National Rifle Association. In addition to rifle and shotgun merit badge, scouts at the rifle range have an opportunity to fulfill requirements for NRA skill recognitions. Scouts also have an opportunity to fire a black powder rifle.

A sound, well designed field sports range assists range officers in insuring the safety of scouts on the firing line and of campers in the area. The range designed by the OSA meets or exceeds all of the recommendations for safety which have been established by the State of Michigan, the National Rifle

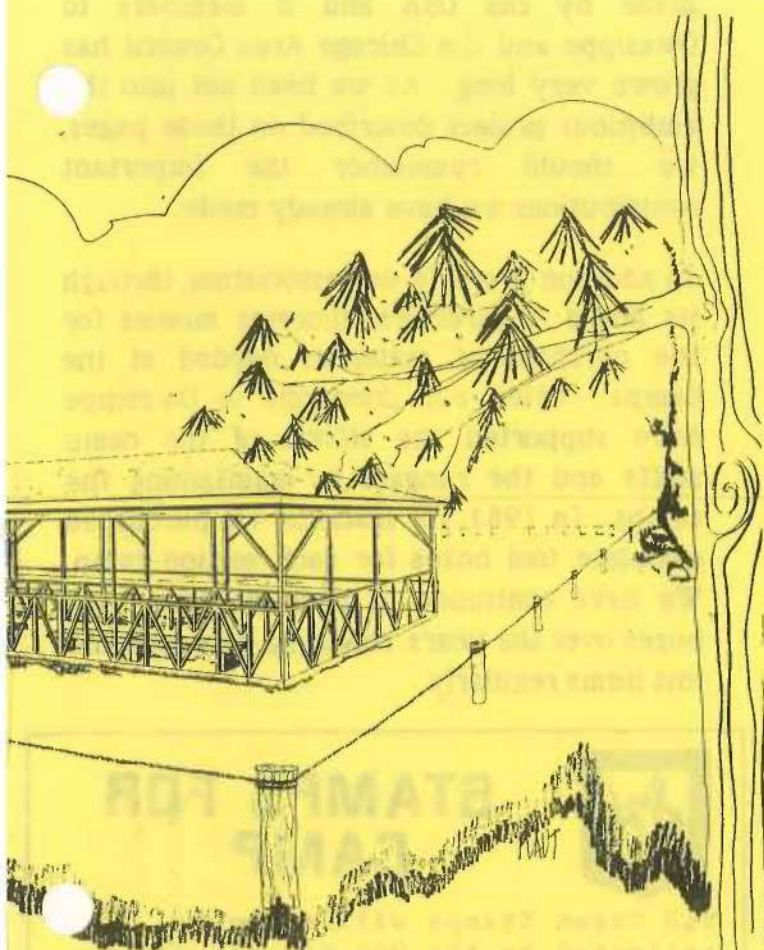


RIFLE RANGE PAVILION

Association, the Chicago Area Council, and the BSA National Council. This facility also includes a much-needed storage cabinet, which will house rifles and ammunition securely and extend the life of rifles.

Construction Begins

In the soft light of autumn, the brightly-colored leaves fall silently toward the floor of the Owasisippe forest. In Camp Blackhawk, some of them now rest on a concrete foundation. Our project has begun.



On October 9th, Seyferth Construction of Montague, Michigan poured concrete at the Blackhawk rifle range. At our Fall Fix-It, many of our members visited the site and stood for a while on the bridge over the stream that separates the rifle range from the archery range. The range at Camp Blackhawk is undoubtedly on the most beautiful range site at Owasisippe. In a few short months, we'll add to the majesty of that place.

With the concrete in, the project committee will now begin gathering and purchasing the materials needed for the ranges. They'll also turn their attention to the Spring Fix-It and

to the development of an efficient, well organized construction site. This time, we want every member who comes to the weekend to have an opportunity to contribute on the job site. We'll organize the work so everyone can say that he or she did something important.

We look for an even bigger turn-out than in 1982, when more than one-hundred workers participated in the Fix-It. Mark your calendars. We will erect field sports ranges at Owasisippe on May 16, 17, and 18. Don't miss it!



OSA DONATIONS TO OWASIPPE

In its history, the OSA, through its members, has made numerous donations to Owasisippe. Often, these donations come in the form of goods, which are given by members to the OSA and then designated for Owasisippe or the near-in camps. In addition, members of our association also solicit donations of goods which are badly needed by Owasisippe.

Some of the items which have been collected and distributed in these ways are a ten-year supply of embossed trail signs (fleur-de-lis), a dozen, forty-foot telephone poles (Project COPE), six F. M. radios, a Savin copier, a folding stretcher, tubes of 7018 welding rod, and a pair of army field phones. Often, garage sale donations are forwarded directly to Owasisippe. From garage sales, Owasisippe has received several aquariums, manilla rope, and table covers. Several of our members have also contributed items to the Owasisippe museum.

OSA DONATIONS, continued . . .

To the maintenance staff, we have given many needed items: a variable speed drill, an industrial circular saw, an ignition analyzer, a timing light, a roofing slap-tacker, a bolt cutter, a brad gun, carpenter's squares, and numerous wrenches, screwdriver sets, tape measures, staple guns and utility knives.

We have also supported the safety efforts of the reservation, most often through our S&H green stamp program. To date, we have sent twelve fire rakes, twelve shovels, and more than forty life jackets to section camps.

In 1984, the CAC Director of Camping asked the OSA to provide program materials for the snorkeling outpost, and so we purchased masks, fins, and snorkels for this program.

At times, we have also purchased items for the near-in camps. For example, we sent an impact wrench to Hoover, shovels, rakes, and a post hole digger to Kiwanis, and hand axes, full axes, bow saws, and a post-hole digger to Dearborn.

After six years, the list of contributions

made by the OSA and its members to Owasppe and the Chicago Area Council has grown very long. As we head out into the ambitious project described on these pages, we should remember the important contributions we have already made.

In addition to goods, our association, through its Board of Directors, allocates monies for the purchase of materials needed at the camps. Often our donations to Owasppe have supported the efforts of the camp staffs and the rangers in maintaining the camps. In 1981, for instance, we purchased complete tool boxes for each section camp. We have continued to maintain these tool boxes over the years, replacing damaged and lost items regularly.



STAMPS FOR CAMP

S&H Green Stamps will again be collected by the OSA through early June to purchase needed program and/or maintenance equipment for the camping properties. Stamps or certificates should be forwarded to our PO Box 7097, brought to our events or dropped-off at the Council Service Center, 730 W. Lake Street, Chicago.



"Concrete pad poured this Fall at Camp Blackhawk from early proceeds collected for the Field Sports Project.

YES

Please include me in your plans to help renovate and improve the Fieldsports Program at Owasippe Scout Reservation.

Enclosed is my donation of \$_____ to help complete the project.

I hereby pledge \$_____ which will be paid in full by installments prior to May 1, 1987.

Enclosed is my first payment of \$_____.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mail all correspondence to O.S.A., P.O. Box 7097, Westchester, IL 60153.

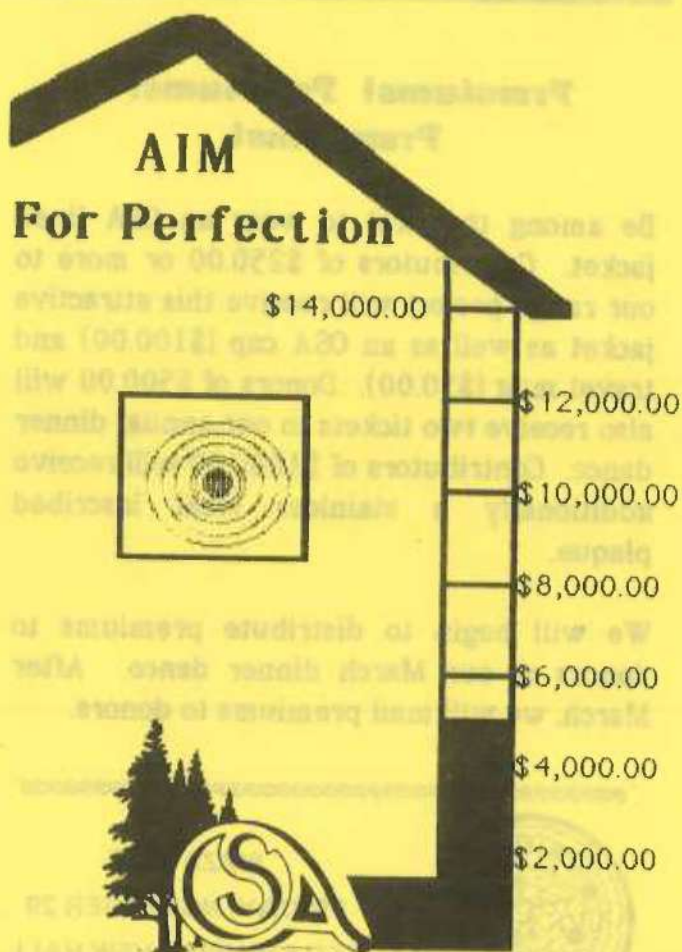
WE CAN DO IT!

Our fund-raising goal for the Blackhawk rifle range is \$7,000.00. The OSA has committed to the Council to build this range in time for the seventy-fifth anniversary, the summer of 1986. We want to exceed our goal, however, and to raise another \$7,000.00 for the range at Camp Carlen. To meet such a goal, we will need the full generosity of our members.

Already we have raised \$4,964.00 toward our first-year goal of \$14,000.00. To the initial project fund of \$1,242.00, we have added the proceeds from our 1985 garage sale, \$1,538.00, and the monies donated by members in recent weeks, \$2,184. This last figure is an especially large one when we consider that only twenty-six members of our association have sent us their contributions. Of this group, seven members have pledged \$250.00, while another six have pledged one-hundred dollars. We are encouraged by the support of these members and appreciate the promptness with which they responded to our initial mailing.

We now ask our other members to mail your donations today. Put the hammers in our hands now so that we can move forward with our entire project. Progress is three-hundred of us pulling together, and we ask you to give generously.

We hope the information we have shared with you in this newsletter has helped you to understand our project better. If you believe in this project as much as your Board of Directors and the OSA project committee, then you will support our efforts and help us to contribute to the growth of America's premier scout camp. We have enclosed a donation form in this newsletter. Please use it today.



camping
scout
promote



VIBRATIONS

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
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PERMIT NO. 77
BROOKFIELD, IL
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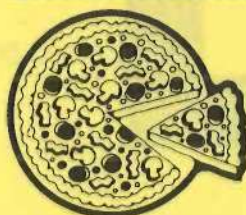
The Owasippe Staff Assoc, Inc.
PO Box 7097
Westchester, IL 60153

Premiums! Premiums! Premiums!

Be among the first to wear an OSA lined jacket. Contributors of \$250.00 or more to our range project will receive this attractive jacket as well as an OSA cap (\$100.00) and travel mug (\$50.00). Donors of \$500.00 will also receive two tickets to our annual dinner dance. Contributors of \$1000.00 will receive additionally a stainless steel inscribed plaque.

We will begin to distribute premiums to donors at our March dinner dance. After March, we will mail premiums to donors.

BE A GOOD EGG...



PIZZA NITE
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29
TED STEMPIEN VFW HALL

AND BREAK OUT OF YOUR SHELL!
DONATE TO THE OSA'S
CAMP PROJECT TODAY!